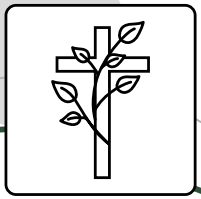
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
EURASIA

STRATEGIC WORKBOOK

Regional Gaps
Consolidated Master Document

Local Church Edition



Engaging the Next Generation

ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION

Three Day Consolidated Master Document

FOREWORD

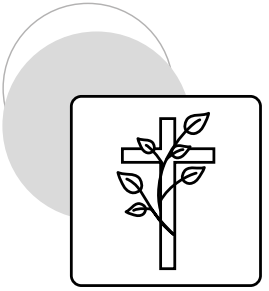
This consolidated master document represents the full work of all table groups engaging with **Gap 1: Engaging the Next Generation** during the Eurasia Regional Conference.

Together, participants explored how to connect with, disciple, and inspire younger generations, fostering their faith, leadership, and their involvement in the mission of the Church.

Across three days, leaders reflected, dreamed, collaborated, prayed, and identified for communication, clear next steps seeking to build intergenerational community and empower young people to encounter Christ, and thrive in their spiritual journeys. This combined document brings all contributions together in a unified, structured, and accessible format.

It is our prayer that this document, created collaboratively by the people of Eurasia, will resonate with the pastors and leaders of our local churches, and that conversations resulting in tangible action plans to close the gap, will produce fruit that will last (John 15:16).

To God be the Glory!



Engaging the Next Generation

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DAY 1

Reflect

1. INTRODUCTIONS - Who we are and why this matters

Across all tables, several consistent themes emerged about who is speaking and why they care:

- Many participants serve as youth pastors, children's workers, district leaders, parents, teachers, and emerging leaders.
- A strong sense of personal calling appears repeatedly with individuals choosing this gap because they see the next generation as the future of the Church and feel a responsibility to invest in them.
- Several participants noted having been formed by youth ministry themselves, now wanting to mentor others.
- Many expressed concern that the gap between generations is widening because of cultural shifts, technology, secularism, and lack of engagement.

Unified insight:

The people at the tables are deeply invested, not observers, but practitioners. This is a collective cry: We must reach, disciple, and empower the next generation because without them the Church will wither.

2. CONSEQUENCES & IMPACT - What the gap looks like and why it matters

The gap looks like:

- Youth feeling disconnected, unheard, or undervalued.
- Churches struggling with aging leadership and declining youth engagement.
- Young people feeling the Church is irrelevant or out of touch.
- Social media and cultural pressures pulling youth away.
- Parents unprepared or too busy to disciple their children.

Why it matters:

- The Church risks losing an entire generation.
- Without young leaders, the Church lacks continuity and mission.
- Young people face identity confusion, anxiety, loneliness, and digital addictions without spiritual grounding.

Unified insight:

This is not only a ministry issue, it is an existential threat to the Church's health and future.

3. ROOT CAUSES & ENABLERS - How we got here

Root causes:

- Outdated methods that no longer connect.
- Lack of discipleship for youth and leaders.
- Insufficient leadership development.
- Poor communication across generations.
- Lack of intentional relationships.
- Closed church cultures.
- Family breakdown and absence of spiritual parenting.
- Digital influence reshaping values faster than churches respond.

Enablers:

- Strong mentors and intergenerational friendships.
- Youth hunger for authenticity.
- Churches prioritizing prayer, discipleship, and relationship-building.
- Crisis contexts (war, migration, economic hardship) creating openness to the Gospel.

4. WHAT IS WORKING/NOT WORKING?

Working:

- Small groups, mentorship, and intentional relationships.
- Youth serving in music, tech, hospitality, and ministry roles.
- Mixed-age activities, camps, and mission trips.
- Authentic discipleship where questions are welcomed.

Not working:

- Traditional programs with no relational depth.
- Worship styles that don't resonate with youth.
- Adults who don't trust youth.
- Repetitive routines with no relevance.
- Leadership structures that exclude youth from real decision-making.

Unified insight:

Where youth are seen, heard, and given responsibility, ministry thrives.
Where they are controlled, it dies.

5. KEY CONCERNS, NEEDS, AND PAIN POINTS

- More leaders willing to invest in youth.
- Parents who disciple, not outsource.
- Healing across generational misunderstanding.
- Courage for churches to adapt.
- Better communication and cultural awareness.
- Protection against harmful influences.
- Discipleship for youth dealing with trauma, addiction, identity confusion, or anxiety.

Unified insight:
The Church needs wisdom, courage, compassion, and unity not just solutions.

6. OBSTACLES TO CHANGE

- Lack of leaders and volunteers.
- Fear of change among older believers.
- Generational mistrust.
- Overcommitted families and busy schedules.
- Financial limitations.
- Digital distraction.
- Cultural differences in multicultural churches.
- Leaders focusing on tasks instead of relationships.

Unified insight: *The obstacles are significant but not immovable.*

7. SIGNS OF GOD AT WORK RIGHT NOW

- Youth stepping into leadership.
- Revival movements among children and young adults.
- Intergenerational friendships forming.
- Youth returning to faith and seeking mentors.
- Transformation through camps, prayer meetings, and NYI gatherings.
- Softening of hearts among parents and leaders.

Unified insight: *God is stirring a renewal among the next generation.*

8. WHAT GOD MIGHT WANT US TO DO TOGETHER

- Build intergenerational relationships.
- Create shared discipleship models.
- Pray intentionally for youth and families.
- Develop new ministry strategies through listening.
- Raise and train new young leaders.
- Build unity between churches and cultures.
- Mentor youth and create safe spaces for growth.

Unified insight: *The work is too big for isolated leaders but not too big for a united Church.*

9. LOOKING AHEAD TO 2035 - What the future could look like

- A unified, multi-generational Church.
- Youth discipled, empowered, and leading now.
- Thriving churches built on authentic relationships.
- Young people becoming pastors, missionaries, teachers, and disciple-makers.
- Strong families centered on Christ.
- Churches seen as places of healing and belonging.

Unified insight: *The future is hopeful if we invest now.*

10. WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST

- Being part of revival among youth.
- Seeing young Christians become leaders.
- Intergenerational unity.
- Serving as mentors and spiritual parents.
- Watching youth rise as the now generation.
- Seeing youth start families rooted in faith.

Unified insight: *People feel hopeful and ready. They see themselves in this story.*

FINAL SUMMARY
If the Church wants a future, it must invest intentionally, sacrificially, creatively, and relationally in the next generation now. The path forward is: listen, disciple, empower, bridge generations, pray, innovate, and let youth lead.

DAY 2

Collaborate

1. HOW DO WE CLOSE THE GAP?

Current Priorities & Key Next Steps:

- Discipleship & Mentoring
- Build intentional pathways, mentor youth, model Christlike life.
- Intergenerational Community
- Create belonging, trust, shared spaces, and family-like environment.
- Leadership Development
- Train young leaders, give real responsibility, support growth.
- Mission & Evangelism
- Engage youth in service, compassion, outreach, and digital mission.
- Communication & Inclusion
- Improve intergenerational communication, listen well, invite creativity.
- Safe & Vibrant Spaces
- Create emotionally and spiritually safe environments where youth thrive.

2. HOW CAN REGIONAL PRIORITIES ADD DEPTH?

- More Discipleship - stronger spiritual formation.
- More Mission - hands on serving and evangelism.
- More Next Generation Leadership through leadership pipelines.
- More Education: biblical and practical training.
- More Compassion - empathy, listening, support.
- More Local Leadership & Sustainability - stable youth ministries.
- More Global Connections through cross regional partnerships.
- Operational Effectiveness - better coordination and tools.

3. HOW CAN WE BUILD ON WHAT'S ALREADY WORKING?

- Expand NEXUS, camps, and youth groups.
- Strengthen existing mentoring relationships.
- Encourage shared meals, activities, and testimonies.
- Celebrate youth participation and leadership.
- Build on organic relational discipleship.

4. WHO COULD I BE COLLABORATING WITH?

- Local leaders, pastors, elders.
- District and field leaders.
- NYI, NMI, NDI & NCM.
- Parents, mentors, families.
- Schools, mission organizations, global church partners.

5. WHAT IS NEEDED IN MY CONTEXT?

- People & Leadership - committed mentors, accountability.
- Training & Resources - tools, curriculum, leadership support.
- Environment & Structure - safe spaces, clear pathways.
- Time & Intentionality - consistent relational investment.

6. DESIRED 2035 OUTCOMES

- Intergenerational church unity.
- Youth actively discipled and leading.
- Missional engagement as normal.
- Healthy digital evangelism presence.
- Strong leadership pipeline and transformation culture.

7. COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS GOD IS CALLING US TO

- Intentional disciple making.
- Strengthened leadership development.
- Deep intergenerational relationships.
- Expanded global connections.
- Unified ministries across districts.
- Empowering youth to lead boldly.
- Listening to the Holy Spirit for guidance.

DAY 3

Communicate +

1. REFLECT - What We Have Learned

- Intentional discipleship and engaged investment remain essential across the region.
- Youth need leaders who listen with empathy, understand adolescence, and guide their development.
- Collaboration with families strengthens long term impact.
- Intergenerational unity must grow; older and younger generations need to break historic disconnection patterns.
- Prayer and the Holy Spirit's power are central to closing this gap.
- Cultural needs differ by country, but the calling remains universal.
- We already see positive movement: youth joining the church, leaders recognizing the gap, and churches wanting to respond.

2. COMMIT – Where God Is Calling Us To Engage

- Engage consistently with youth and children; be present, relational, and authentic. - Walk with youth in education, discipleship, and character formation.
- Mentor young leaders intentionally; create opportunities for them to serve and grow.
- Work interdenominationally and collaboratively where possible.
- Support parents, pastors, NYI, educators, and local leadership teams.
- Help youth use digital media responsibly and missionally.
- Encourage unity and belonging in the community.

3. PRAYER – Discernment, Spiritual Guidance & Healthy Collaboration

- Reflect before acting; wait on God s timing, not our own.
- Seek wisdom, resilience, clarity, courage, and spiritual maturity.
- Pray for the next generation to encounter God deeply.
- Pray for God to raise new leaders, mentors, and youth influencers.
- Build prayer rhythms as a foundation for long-term discipleship.
- Pray for forgiveness, honesty, and healing in intergenerational relationships.

4. COMMUNICATE – One Clear, Shared Proposal

Core Proposal: *Build Strong, Intentional Intergenerational Relationships.*

This includes:

- Doing life together across generations.
- Encouraging relational honesty, forgiveness, and openness.
- Creating spaces where youth feel safe, seen, and supported.
- Mentoring the next generation through real relationships.
- Fostering unity between pastors, leaders, and young people.
- Strengthening youth discipleship pathways and belonging.

5. NEXT STEPS – Regional and Local Actions

Specific Opportunities:

- Strengthen NEXUS and youth gatherings.
- Develop digital evangelism and communication platforms.
- Create prayer events, youth retreats, and teaching settings.
- Equip young leaders for active roles in worship and local leadership.
- Develop materials for discipleship and spiritual formation.

Next 3 Months:

- Meet with pastors, NYI leaders, and youth pastors to align vision.
- Begin 1 to 1 mentorship with at least one youth.
- Establish regular youth-focused activities.
- Plan or schedule a NEXUS event or youth camp.
- Increase active collaboration with educators, parents, and local leaders.

Next 12 Months:

- Launch leadership pipelines.
- Expand digital mission and discipleship expression.
- Grow youth involvement in local church ministries.
- Develop sustainable models for intergenerational community life.
- Pray for wisdom, discernment, resilience, courage, and creativity from the Holy Spirit.

NOTES

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